

## **Unapproved**

### **Minutes**

**A Special Meeting of the Cumberland School Committee was held on Monday, June 20, 2011 at 5:00 PM at the Cumberland High School Transitional Building, Cafetorium, 2602 Mendon Road, Cumberland, R.I.**

**Call to order by: Mr. Mutter**

**Time: 5:08 pm**

**Members Absent: Erika Sanzi**

**Presenting: Dr. Lisa Colwell, Chairperson of Superintendent's Screening Committee**

**Attending: Bill Garr, Executive Vice President, Future Management Systems, Inc.**

**Dr. Colwell read a prepared statement (see attached) summarizing the work and outcome of the Superintendent's Screening Committee.**

**The Screening Committee presented two candidates to the School Committee for consideration: Michael Lazzareschi, the Principal of the Nathan Bishop Middle School in Providence, Rhode Island and Dr. Philip Thornton, Superintendent of Schools in North Kingstown,**

**Rhode Island.**

**Motion: To Adjourn „Ã Approved**

**BEAU GIBB MUTTER PEDRO SANZI TEEL WOOD**

**Motion X Absent**

**2nd X**

**Vote „Ã Yea „Ã Yea „Ã Yea „Ã Yea „Ã „Ã Yea „Ã Yea**

**„Ã Motion Carried 6-0**

**No votes were taken during the Special Meeting on any items other than as noted above.**

**Meeting adjourned at 5:19 pm**

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**Linda G. Teel, Clerk**

**Cumberland School Committee**

**Attachment -**

**Report from the Cumberland Superintendent Search Screening Committee**

**Presented to: Cumberland School Committee**

**Presented by: Lisa Colwell, Chairperson of the Screening Committee**

**Date: June 20, 2011**

**The Cumberland School Committee appointed a fourteen member committee to screen applications for the position of Superintendent of Schools. The Screening Committee included representation from the district's administrative office, building level administration, teachers, community representatives from town government/business community and parents. I was unanimously elected as the chairperson at our initial meeting. To a person, this committee discharged its duty with care, fairness and a continual focus on the needs of the community. It has been my pleasure and honor to lead this special group.**

**There were originally 30 applicants, three withdrew their application prior to the screening process. Over the past month the committee thoroughly reviewed and discussed 27 applicants for this position. Tonight the Screening Committee presents the following candidates (presented in alphabetical order) to the School committee for consideration: Michael Lazzareschi, the Principal of the Nathan Bishop Middle School in Providence, Rhode Island and Dr. Philip Thornton, Superintendent of Schools in North Kingstown, Rhode Island. Both candidates have been in their current positions since 2009.**

**Mr. Lazzareschi has a master's degree in Secondary School Administration from Providence College and is working on a Ph.D. in**

**Education in a joint program at Rhode Island College and University of Rhode Island. In addition to his experience as a middle school principal, he has been an elementary principal in Cranston, RI and Providence. He was an elementary principal for four years at the Martin Luther Elementary School, one year at the West Broadway Elementary School, both in Providence, and five years at the Gladstone Street Elementary School in Cranston. Mr. Lazzareschi is also the winner of a number of awards including The Elementary Principal of the Year in 2008 from the Rhode Island Association of School Principals and National Distinguished Principal award from the National Association of School Principals.**

**Dr. Thornton received the Doctor of Education degree from Johnson and Wales University and a Masters degree in Secondary School Administration from Providence College. He has been a school administrator in the North Kingstown School District since 2007, first as the Assistant Superintendent, and then Interim Superintendent of Schools in 2008. He was appointed as the Superintendent of Schools in North Kingstown in March of 2009. Prior to his work in North Kingstown, Dr. Thornton was an Assistant Superintendent in the Chariho Regional School District for two years and an Assistant Principal and Curriculum Director in the Exeter-West Greenwich School District for eight years. He began his career as a residential counselor and history teacher in a private school. He was also a combat medic in the National Guard for two years before beginning his career in education.**

**The members of the Screening Committee thank the School Committee for entrusting us with this important task and for an opportunity to be involved in this process. As Chairperson of the committee, I extend my sincerest thanks and appreciation to each member of the screening committee for the adjustments they had to make to their personal schedules during this especially busy time of year and recognize each for a job very well done.**